

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method of distributing software to a user terminal,
comprising:

decomposing the software into a plurality of
recombinable segment data;

registering a plurality of the segment data to a
predetermined site;

detecting linkage of the user terminal to the site; and
transmitting each of a plurality of the segment data
to the user terminal in a sequence every time the linkage is
detected.

2. An apparatus for distributing software to a user terminal,
comprising:

a dividing unit which decomposes the software into a
plurality of recombinable segment data;

a site registration unit which registers a plurality of
the segment data to a predetermined site;

a link monitor which supervises a link state between
the user terminal and the site; and

a data transmission unit which selects unsent data from
a plurality of the segment data every time the user terminal
is linked to the site, and transmits the unsent data to the
user terminal.

3. An apparatus according to Claim 2, further comprising an encryption unit which encrypts the software,

wherein said dividing unit decomposed the encrypted software into a format of segment data such that the software is allowed for installation only when all segment data are recombined.

4. An apparatus according to Claim 2, wherein said dividing unit subdivides the software into a data size to the degree that the user is unaware of the downloading thereof, and

wherein said data transmission unit transmits a plurality of the segment data to the user terminal without notifying the user terminal of the data transmission.

5. An apparatus according to Claim 3, wherein said dividing unit subdivides the software into a data size to the degree that the user is unaware of the downloading thereof, and

wherein said data transmission unit transmits a plurality of the segment data to the user terminal without notifying the user terminal of the data transmission.

6. An apparatus according to Claim 2, wherein when the user terminal is linked to the site, said link monitor confirms with a user as to whether or not transmission of a plurality of the segment data is permitted.

7. An apparatus according to Claim 3, wherein when the user terminal is linked to the site, said link monitor confirms with a user as to whether or not transmission of a plurality of the segment data is permitted.
8. An apparatus according to Claim 4, wherein when the user terminal is linked to the site, said link monitor confirms with a user as to whether or not transmission of a plurality of the segment data is permitted.
9. An apparatus according to Claim 2, wherein said site registration unit registers each of a plurality of the segment data to a plurality of Web pages included in the site in a distributed manner.
10. An apparatus according to Claim 3, wherein said site registration unit registers each of a plurality of the segment data to a plurality of Web pages included in the site in a distributed manner.
11. An apparatus according to Claim 4, wherein said site registration unit registers each of a plurality of the segment data to a plurality of Web pages included in the site in a distributed manner.
12. An apparatus according to Claim 6, wherein said site

registration unit registers each of a plurality of the segment data to a plurality of Web pages included in the site in a distributed manner.

13. A user terminal, comprising:

a link processor which establishes a link with a registered site of a plurality of segment data, every time the user terminal is linked to a network, where software is decomposed in a recombinable format; and

a data receiving unit which downloads from the registered site at least a single set among a plurality of the segment data.

14. A user terminal according to Claim 13, wherein said link processor establishes a link with the registered site every time the user terminal accesses any of a plurality of Web pages included in a predetermined related site.

15. A user terminal according to Claim 13, further comprising:

a data storage which stores installed software; and
an installation processor which, when said data receiving unit downloads all of a plurality of the segment data, recombines the segment data and installs the recombined segment data to said data storage.

16. A user terminal according to Claim 14, further comprising:

a data storage which stores installed software; and
an installation processor which, when said data receiving unit downloads all of a plurality of the segment data, recombines the segment data and installs the recombined segment data to said data storage.

17. A user terminal according to Claim 13, wherein the segment data to be downloaded by said data receiving unit is in a form operable at user side.

18. A user terminal according to Claim 13, wherein a downloading form is selectable between a segment form and a non-segment form according to a user's environment.